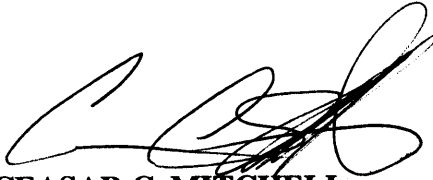


AN ORDINANCE



BY COUNCILMEMBER CEASAR C. MITCHELL

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA, CHAPTER 162, ENTITLED "VEHICLES FOR HIRE", BY CREATING A NEW SECTION 162-120 TO BE ENTITLED "THE PARATRANSIT TAXI PROGRAM" [OR "THE WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE TAXICAB PILOT PROGRAM"]; TO ESTABLISH THE RULES, REGULATIONS, REQUIREMENTS AND VEHICLE SPECIFICATIONS RELATED TO SAID PROGRAM; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

**Whereas**, the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) was enacted to address the problem of discrimination against individuals with disabilities in such critical areas as employment, public accommodation, public transportation and access to public services; and

**Whereas**, there are approximately 54 million Americans with disabilities of which approximately twenty percent use wheelchairs; and

**Whereas**, most taxi service is operated in automobiles, which are exempt from ADA accessibility guidelines and are not equipped with lifts or ramps which would allow the passenger to be transported while remaining in his/her wheelchair; and

**Whereas**, studies show that there is a sizable population of mobility-challenged people who need curb-to-curb taxi service; and

**Whereas**, vehicles are currently on the market which are equipped with special-use capabilities and can be used as vehicles for hire in the transportation of passengers with special needs; and

**Whereas**, the cities of Chicago, San Francisco, San Diego, Boston, Los Angeles, Fort Lauderdale and Las Vegas require the inclusion of accessible taxicabs among their fleets of vehicles for hire; and

**Whereas**, the City of Atlanta has no such requirement; and

**Whereas**, the addition of such a requirement would allow the City's taxicab industry to better serve the City's mobility-challenged population who need and desire curb-to-curb taxi service.

temporary permit to participate in the program and the CPNC holder shall acquire no right of ownership in any such CPNC.

- (2) The cost for each CPNC issued by the bureau shall be \$5,000.00;
- (3) No CPNC shall be issued pursuant to this section unless or until the applicant provides proof that he or she either owns or is leasing or purchasing a wheelchair accessible taxicab;
- (4) CPNC's will be issued upon not less than two weeks' notice, on a first-come basis, at a date and time to be publicly announced by the bureau;
- (5) CPNC's issued hereunder shall be issued for a period of five (5) years and shall be nontransferable. At the end of the five-year period, the CPNC's shall be returned to the City and the City reserves the right to determine whether the Paratransit Program will be continued and whether CPNC's will be renewed or reissued for the program.;
- (6) Should the vehicle for which the CPNC was issued cease operation as a wheelchair accessible taxicab, the CPNC shall be surrendered to the bureau and the CPNC holder shall not be entitled to a refund of any portion of the cost paid for the temporary CPNC.

**(e) Exterior advertising:** In order to off-set the increased cost of wheelchair accessible taxicabs and to allow for supplemental revenues due to the restricted and specialized nature of the ridership population, wheelchair accessible taxicabs shall be permitted to display advertising material on the exterior body of the vehicle, provided, however, that such display materials shall not include advertising for any type of tobacco product, alcoholic beverages or any adult business as defined by City code section 16-29.001(3).

**(f) Dispatch system:** All wheelchair accessible taxicabs shall participate in a central dispatch system to ensure prompt service to people with disabilities. Response time shall not be greater than \_\_\_\_\_ minutes from the time the call for service is received. The costs of such a central dispatch system shall be assessed on a pro rata basis, upon those CPNC holders with wheelchair accessible taxicabs

**Section 2:** All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

#29

05-0-0117

(Do Not Write Above This Line)

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- ☐ CONSENT REFER  
☐ REGULAR REPORT REFER  
☐ ADVERTISE & REFER  
☐ 1st ADOPT 2nd READ & REFER  
☒ PERSONAL PAPER REFER

Date Referred

1/18/05

Referred To:

PS/LA

Date Referred

Referred To:

Date Referred

Referred To:

## First Reading

Committee \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Chair \_\_\_\_\_  
 Referred To \_\_\_\_\_

## Committee

Date

Chair

Action

Fav, Adv, Hold (see rev. side)

Other

Members

Refer To

## Committee

Date

Chair

Action

Fav, Adv, Hold (see rev. side)

Other

Members

Refer To

## Committee

Date

Chair

Action

Fav, Adv, Hold (see rev. side)

Other

Members

Refer To

## Committee

Date

Chair

Action

Fav, Adv, Hold (see rev. side)

Other

Members

Refer To

## FINAL COUNCIL ACTION

☐ 2nd ☐ 1st & 2nd ☐ 3rd

Readings

☐ Consent ☐ V Vote ☐ RC Vote

CERTIFIED

MAYOR'S ACTION